



EASTERN ASIA: In Manchuria, showers (10-50 mm) continued to bring drought relief to filling corn and soybeans. In the North China Plain, continued dry weather (less than 10 mm) in Hebei, northern Shandong, and Henan stressed filling summer crops. Heavier rain of 15 to 40 mm fell across southern Shandong and northern Anhui and Jiangsu. In both regions, temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees C above normal, with the highest temperatures ranging from 26 to 30 degrees C in Manchuria and 32 to 35 degrees C in the North China Plain. Super Typhoon Bilis struck southeastern Taiwan on August 22, with sustained winds of 140 knots (161 mph). In Taiwan, the storm produced torrential rain (100-320 mm) and caused local rice damage. Later on August 22, Bilis then struck mainland China (Fujian) with sustained winds of 130 knots (150 mph). The storm spread heavy showers (50-200 mm) across Fujian, eastern Guangdong, Jiangxi, and Zhejiang, possibly causing some flooding and local damage to late double-crop rice. Elsewhere, moderate showers (20-70 mm) maintained moisture supplies for summer crops in the Sichuan Basin and Guizhou. The remnants of Bilis moved over the Yellow Sea, and on August 25 and 26, helped produce widespread heavy showers (100-300 mm) and flooding across South Korea, possibly causing some damage to maturing rice. Earlier in the week, moderate showers (25-50 mm) boosted moisture supplies in North Korea. In most of Japan, mostly dry weather aided maturing rice, while showers (25-75 mm) prevailed across the southern Islands and Hokkaido. Temperatures averaged near normal in the Korean Peninsula and 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in Japan.